UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1997/783
9 October 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 9 OCTOBER 1997 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith the English translation of note verbale No. 643/1184 dated 19 May 1997 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Tehran. The note concerns the repeated harassment and the firing upon Iranian boats by the Iraqi tugboat Alhamra, in violation of the ceasefire between the two countries and of the Tehran Agreement of 6 January 1991.

It would be appreciated if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Majid TAKHT-RAVANCHI
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

97-26900 (E) 091097

/...

Annex

Note verbale dated 19 May 1997 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Tehran

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran presents its compliments to the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in Tehran and has the honour to state the following:

Relevant Iranian authorities have reported that Iranian boats cruising from Kuwait to the Iranian ports have repeatedly been intercepted and harassed by the Iraqi ships in the Khor Abdullah area. In one instance, the Iraqi forces destroyed the communication equipment of an Iranian boat and removed the property of its passengers.

Moreover, on 12 March 1997, an Iranian dhow, belonging to Mr. Hussein Mohammadi, coming from Kuwait towards Khorramshahr, while passing Khor Abdullah towards the mouth of Shatt al-Arab, was pursued by the Iraqi tugboat Alhamra to Arvand Kenar where it came under fire from the Iraqi tugboat. A number of other Iranian sailors have also identified the same Iraqi tugboat, Alhamra, as harassing and at times firing upon them.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran registers its strong objections to such illegal and aggressive acts which are against the Tehran Agreement of 6 January 1991 and the principles of good-neighbourliness and friendly relations between the two countries. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran holds the Government of Iraq responsible for the continuation of such actions which are in violation of international law and of Iranian sovereignty, and herewith calls upon the Government of Iraq to halt such hostile actions.